



The Bishop of Lincoln

Summer 2025

In June we had a special service at the Cathedral for Bishop David, the Bishop of Grimsby, because he is retiring. It was sad to say goodbye, but it was also happy because we said thank you for everything he has done in our churches and schools. We gave Bishop David a gift – our way of saying thank you as a church family for the gift of his work as one of our Bishops.

We often think gifts are for birthdays and Christmas! As we come to the end of the school year, this is a good time to be thinking about our gifts. What are some of your gifts? What are the special things that make you 'you'?

Gifts are very special for Christians, because we believe that all things come from God. The world we live in is God's creation: God's gift which gives a home and everything we need. At Christmas, we think about the gift of God's Son, the baby Jesus born as one of us. At Easter, we say thank you to God for his love, shown by the death and resurrection of Jesus. Our God is loving and generous, and he shares with us so many gifts.

You may have heard this saying: 'Who you are is God's gift to you, and who you become is your gift to God.'

In other words, everything that makes you 'you', a person who can learn and grow and thrive, do wonderful things and make a difference – this is God's gift to you. He has made you who you are, and he loves you.

The wonderful thing about gifts is that they work both ways! When someone gives you a gift at Christmas, you can give them a gift too. God gives you the amazing gift of life. What are you going to do with it? Are you going to learn and grow and thrive? Are you going to do wonderful things and make a difference? Are you going to share your gifts with others?

This will help you be the person that God knows and loves. And that will be your gift to God.

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At the end of another school year, we are ready for our summer holidays and looking forward to a whole new adventure in September. I hope you will remember these words. What gifts has God given you, and what gift are you going to give to God?

May God bless you all,

The Rt Revd Stephen Conway
Bishop of Lincoln